(e) whether Government are considering to any steps in this regard; and

(f) if not, the main reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. .P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Government is aware that a number of Indian companies are advertising on Star TV. It does not, however, have any information about the financial standing of this company. As per advice given to RBI, release of foreign exchange for advertisement on foreign satellite channels is not to be made to non-exporters or those with negligible export earnings.

(c) Government does not have any information in this regard.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

विज्ञापन और दृश्य प्रचार निदेशालय को समाप्त किया जाना/उसका विलय किया जाना

1029. श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ भीम अफजल: क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को नई दिल्ली से प्रकाशित दिनांक 6 जुलाई, 1994 के "दि हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स" में प्रकाशित इस आशय के समाचार की जानकारी है कि जिसमें यह कहा गया है कि विज्ञापन और दृश्य प्रचार निदेशालय (डी.ए.वी.पी.) को समाप्त किया जा रहा है या इसका विलय करने का प्रस्ताव है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है और इसके क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ग) क्या इससे समाचार पत्र प्रभावित नहीं होंगे ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री के. पी. सिंह देव) : (क) से (ग) ऐसी एक रिपोर्ट सरकार के नोटिस में आई है । तथापि, विज्ञापन और दृश्य प्रचार निदेशालय को समाप्त किये जाने या इसका विलय करने का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के पास नहीं है ।

Staff Strength of AIR/DD Kendra at Dibrugarh

1030. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the present sanctioned strength of staff and the actual positioned strength at the Dibrugarh Doordarshan Kendra (DDK) as well as the Dibrugah station of All India Radio (AIR), designation-wise details;

(b) the details of amounts spent by Government on the DDK and AIR respectively during last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that due to lack of infrastructual facilities, manpower and resources, the DDK is virtually crippled and the activities of its programme Production Centre (PPC) are at a very low ebb; if so, what remedial steps Government propose in this regard;

(d) the details of programmes produced at the said PPC since its inception alongwith the respective dates of so produced programmes;

(e) whether Government propose to increase the telecast time for the programmes produced by DDK in its own by augmenting the programme production facilities and including its own regional news; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) what specific steps Government propose to take to cater to the needs of substantially large Hindi speaking population in Upper Assam as regards TV programmes presently depending on Zee TV and other foreign networks?